

TWIN PEAKS:
WHY PHYSICISTS
HADI AND MAHDI
GODAZGAR AREN'T
TWO OF A KIND

A WARM
WELCOME: THE
UNDERGRADUATES
CHANGING THE
FACE OF ACCESS
AT KING'S

CONCERTS AT
KING'S: 15 WAYS
TO CELEBRATE
THE CHAPEL'S
ANNIVERSARY

MASTER
MIXOLOGIST:
BRAD EPPS BRINGS
HIS PROMISCUOUS
ETHICS TO KING'S

WELCOME TO THE WINTER 2014 EDITION

BY ROSANNA OMITOWOJU

King's has always sought to attract the brightest and the best, but the way it does so is changing, says the College's Admissions Tutor.



Applications to King's are up this year. One reason is the different way we approached the Cambridge Open Days in the summer. Each July, all the colleges open their doors to prospective students, and this year we decided King's would be much more "open house". Most of the 3,000 people who passed through the College were already signed up to the University Open Days, but we were determined not to turn anyone away if they just happened to be in Cambridge and showed an interest in applying. There was a great buzz over the two days and, crucially, the whole thing was very student-led with undergraduates and graduates giving talks and taking people on tours of the College.

Such efforts reflect our need to look outwards if we are to keep King's full of the brightest and the best, and avoid the temptation to only attract people who look like us. King's core, felt-in-the-heart commitment to widening participation has remained the same for many years, but the way the College puts its money where its mouth is has to constantly evolve. For example, we need to remain vigilant about whether we're sufficiently sensitised to the different issues of people from different backgrounds. While we should probably accept that we won't ever get it totally right, we can never stop interrogating what a level playing field looks like.

The changes in higher education funding – which have forced students to take on debts that are shocking to people of my generation – have also forced us to consider how we might ameliorate the negatives or even capitalise on the changed situation from an Access perspective. I am in no way a supporter of fees, but they have, at least, made us the same as other

universities in one very crucial way. If even non-Russell group universities are charging the same as us, and in that respect we look the same, but are much better value, then I think some candidates from less traditional backgrounds look at us much more openly and positively.

One way our approach has evolved is to see our access and outreach efforts as bound up with our admissions process. Some Colleges may have good reasons for seeing them as separate, but in my view their togetherness particularly matters at King's. Here, we get higher numbers of applications from people who are the one

person in the collective memory of their school to apply to Cambridge, and their experience of applying is fundamental. If a school sends us their best person in fifteen years and that person doesn't have a good time, they're unlikely to send us anyone else again.

With a little attention

to the detail of the bureaucracy of the admissions process, you can make sure that even if an applicant doesn't get in, they return to their school inspired.

Involving students is another way we can maintain a joined-up approach and ensure the College is always outward-looking. In this issue of *King's Parade*, you can read about the exceptional achievements of undergraduates Anna Darnell Bradley and Priti Mohandas, who as KCSU Access Officers have spearheaded a new enthusiasm among students for opening up King's, as well as a new relationship between students and Fellows. Priti and Anna have been a great resource who've brought to King's a sensitivity, an understanding and a very recent knowledge of the ups and downs of applying to the College. I arrived at King's from a comprehensive school in 1987, but that was a long time ago. People like Priti and Anna keep our understanding of the issues fresh.

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SYMMETRY AND SUPERGRAVITY

King's Parade talks to theoretical physicists and King's JRFs Hadi and Mahdi Godazgar about symmetry, higher dimensions, and eureka moments.

The journeys of theoretical physicists Hadi and Mahdi Godazgar to their current JRF positions at King's would appear to support the notion that identical twins lead identical lives. Back in 2004 they drew the attention of the BBC news for having passed identical A-level subjects with identical results.

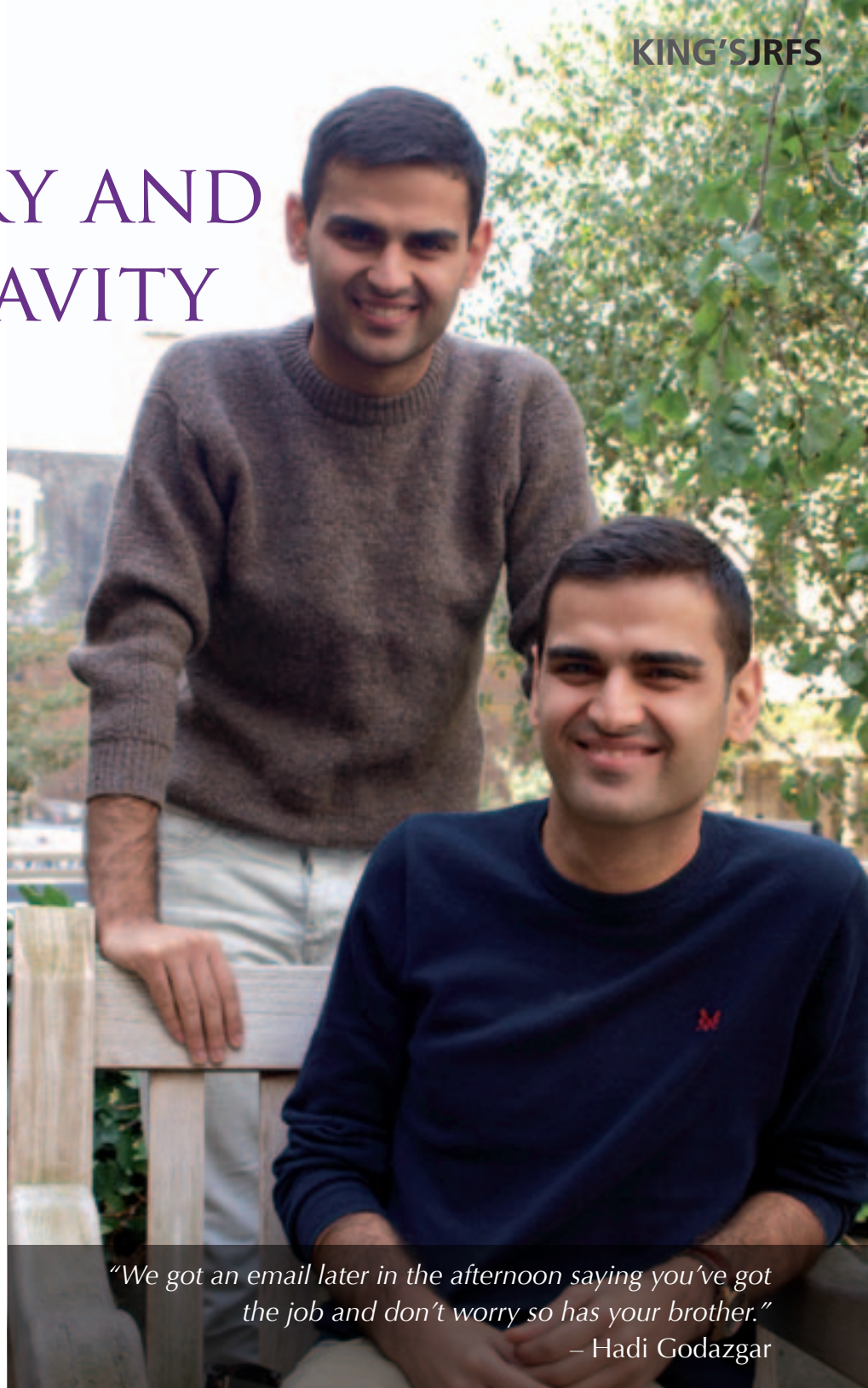
They then went to the University of York to study maths and physics before coming to Cambridge to complete part three of the maths tripos together. After completing PhDs at Cambridge, the time came to apply for jobs – specifically one job – a JRF position at Cambridge.

Hadi laughs: "We went to the interview having been told there was only one job and four interviewees. We got an email later in the afternoon saying you've got the job and don't worry so has your brother".

But dig a little deeper and differences emerge. "We'd never really worked together until very recently," says Hadi. "Even when we were at school we did our homework separately. And with our PhDs we worked on very different topics. I can't really understand Mahdi's PhD if I pick it up. When we did finally collaborate, we were entering uncharted territory. I really liked it because we work and think in similar ways. That's why our collaboration was very fruitful – we wrote a lot of papers in a short amount of time."

So what are the brothers currently researching? "I've been looking at rewriting theories of fundamental physics in a way that emphasises their symmetry," says Hadi. "These theories are usually very difficult to work with. We hope to more easily solve problems with them by making the symmetry manifest."

In contrast, Mahdi's PhD involved looking at higher-dimensional gravity. "It's basically the theory of gravity we get from Einstein.



"We got an email later in the afternoon saying you've got the job and don't worry so has your brother."

– Hadi Godazgar

Hadi (left) and Mahdi Godazgar

He wrote it down in four dimensions. So I'm looking at it in higher dimensions."

How many dimensions are we talking about? "Ten or eleven. Things get more interesting when you increase the dimensions. It's useful to understand when you want to look at some consequences of string theory which is in higher dimensions as well. After my PhD I did some work on supergravity, some corrections. But now I'm going back to answering some general questions about gravity."

The brothers are at an early stage in their careers, but have there been any memorable events so far?

"Obviously the first paper you write is very special," says Mahdi "But other than that all my work has been special."

And Hadi? "There was one problem my supervisor gave me to look at. When I solved it, it was a eureka moment. I was sitting there and all of a sudden it solved itself in front of my eyes – this is very rare."

PROMISE AND



After 22 years at Harvard, Professor Brad Epps was persuaded to take up his new position as Head of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at Cambridge. He spoke to Clare Lynch about his reasons for the move – and why he’s so committed to an interdisciplinary approach.

A champion of promiscuity. That’s how Brad Epps, who joined the King’s Fellowship in October last year, describes himself. Indeed, Brad admits to causing “a bit of a stir” at the College when he recently gave a paper titled “The Ethics of Promiscuity”.

“Promiscuity gives us words like miscegenation and mixture,” he says. “Hence my interest in the intercultural, the interdisciplinary, the intersexual, the

intersectional, the interstitial.”

In keeping with his own promiscuous ethics, Brad’s work embraces literature, cinema, architecture, the visual arts, urban history and critical theory. Its linguistic and geographic sweep takes in Catalan, Spanish, Latin American and Hispano-African.

Brad’s theoretical approach is similarly resistant to pigeonholing. It is, he says, informed by both historical materialism and formalism.

PROMISCUITY

"This may seem like a terrible contradiction," he says. "But I'm interested in the larger forces of globalisation, colonialisation and economic distribution (or the lack thereof). But also questions of representation, so literary or cinematic form.

"For example, I've become interested in the material aspect of cinema – its transition from celluloid to digital. The movement from that thing that was visible, like the luminous trace of the body, to algorithmic computations."

Right now, he's working on a book about Barcelona and cinema, and is editing a collection of essays on the history of cinema by scholars from Spain, Portugal and countries across Latin America. Another interest is the indigenous in Latin America.

"I've done little on that so if I could live a few more decades I'd like to take that further."

Brad also hopes to bring some of his intellectual promiscuity to his role as Professor of Spanish and Head of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at Cambridge. He would like to see greater cross-pollination with gender studies, screen media, film studies and Latin American studies.

It's an approach he promoted at Harvard, where he spent 22 years before coming to Cambridge. There, he held simultaneous professorships in Romance Languages and Literatures, and Women's Studies. He played a large part in reconfiguring the latter such that it encompassed gender and sexuality studies, allowing an undergraduate programme in lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender studies, and queer theory.

"Harvard was very good for someone with a wide diversity of interests," he says. "I've always been fascinated by diversity and the resistance to diversity – it's animated a lot of my work. Fascinated intellectually but sometimes terrified ethically and politically by hatred and violence, which tends to eradicate, dismiss, eliminate entire peoples, languages, cultures.

"If intellectuals can do anything," he says, "I would hope we might, in our writing and our teaching, disseminate a healthy critical suspicion of strong, stabilised and often arrogant and violent identities – for example, American nationalism or radical Islam – that might bring us to see ourselves more bound up in each other than not. I know that sounds terribly utopian, but I think education has a utopian aspect."

Brad's utopianism made him feel increasingly ill at ease at Harvard, where the corporatisation of higher education is more advanced than in the UK.

As someone who is "disturbed by wealth for the sake of wealth", for example, he was dismayed by

the rising popularity of economics among Harvard's students, who, he felt, saw the subject more as "pre-professional training for a career on Wall Street" than as something to be engaged with critically.

Such views led economist Larry Summers, Harvard's former president and an enthusiastic exponent of the market value of education, to declare at a public debate that Brad was "a gooey-eyed idealist who happens to study Spanish".

"I responded by saying I'd leave aside the crypto-racist and physiological remarks to focus on "idealism", and challenged President Summers to articulate a vision of education that did not involve some idealist component. He was unable to respond. I'm glad to say the audience was totally on my side by this point."

Brad's disenchantment had also begun to extend more generally to the country he was born in.

He says: "I do feel a certain possibility here and in other European countries that I don't quite feel any longer in the US, with its outrageous explosion of gun violence; the constant baiting of gay people by a major political party; and the constant, hypocritical, mean-spirited invocation of god in virtually all aspects of public life."

Another reason for the move, he says, was the quality of the faculty in Cambridge, and especially its nurturing of more junior scholars. He went from being one of the third youngest permanent members of his department at Harvard to one of the three oldest at Cambridge.

"I can see young faculty members are not as anxious here," he says. "They want to publish, they want to be productive, they want to make a contribution but there's not that hammer over their heads.

"Typically, at Harvard someone would come and they would stay five maybe six years and then they'd have to leave. I'd started calling it Saturn, after Saturn devouring its own children. I think I had something like survivor's guilt."

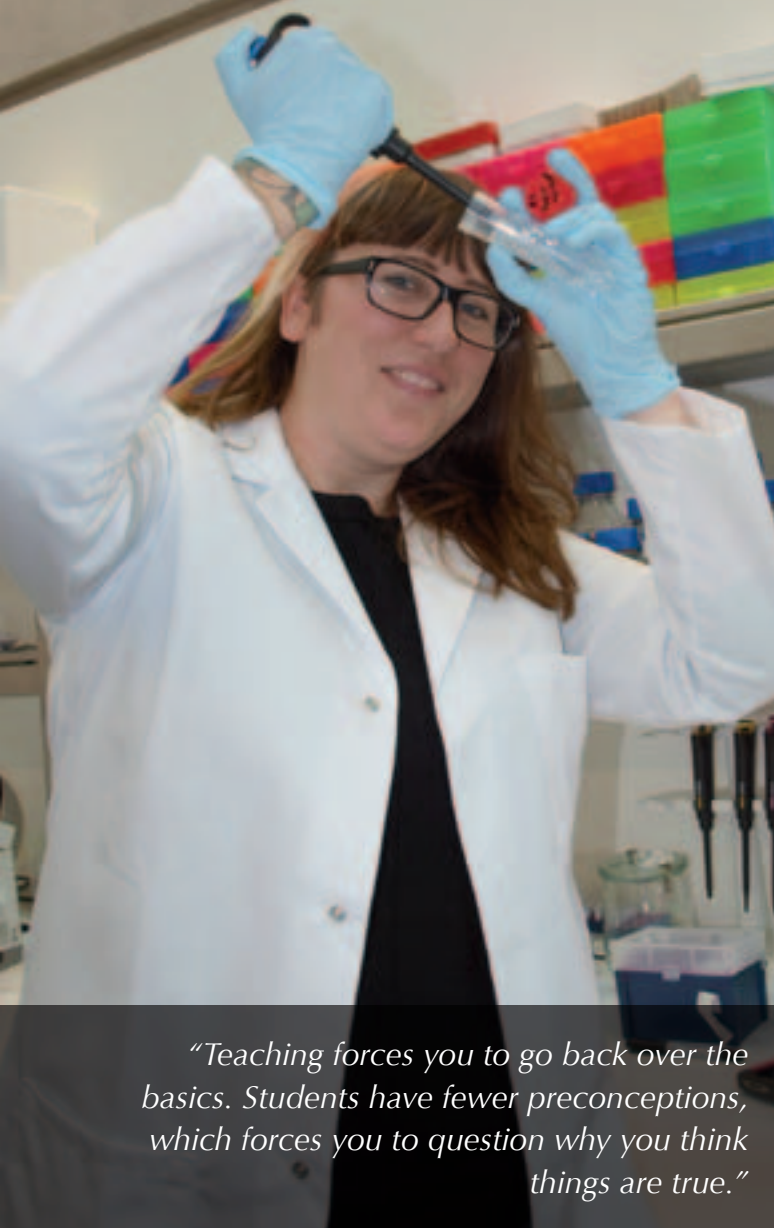
Throw in the proximity to Catalonia and Spain, the aesthetic pull of Cambridge, the anglophilia of his partner of sixteen years, and the opportunity to live somewhere where, despite the global turn toward neo-liberalism, politicians are still able to talk about socialism, and the decision to move to Cambridge was easy.

Having done a great deal of work on feminism and women's studies, Brad contemplated a fellowship at Girton, but decided on King's for two reasons.

"One is perhaps more high-sounding – its reputation for political engagement," he says. "The other is perhaps much more banal and touristy – the Chapel, just the beauty of the place. I got a lot of ribbing for that."

"If intellectuals can do anything I would hope we might disseminate a healthy critical suspicion of stabilised identities that might bring us to see ourselves more bound up in each other than not."

IN GOOD SHAPE



“Teaching forces you to go back over the basics. Students have fewer preconceptions, which forces you to question why you think things are true.”

Dr Siobhan Braybrook is the King's Trapnell Fellow in the Natural Sciences. Here, she tells *King's Parade* about her work at the Sainsbury Laboratory, a new research institute in Cambridge that's elucidating the regulatory systems underlying plant growth and development.

Why is a blade of grass long and thin, while a maple leaf is big and broad? That's the kind of question we're trying to answer in the research group I lead at the Sainsbury Laboratory.

Humans are good at building things, but nature has to grow them. We know that a plant's shape is linked to its function and that its cell walls dictate the shape of its leaves. But we're using a combination of genetics, biochemistry, physics and engineering to figure out what the instructions are that determine how that particular plant shape comes about.

One thing we've done is develop a technique that uses an atomic force microscope to measure how the material properties of a plant change as it's growing. For example, if you want a cell wall within the plant to develop prongs, it's now possible to measure the changes that occur in the cell wall that proceed that type of growth or allow it to occur. It's the first time people have been able to look at this type of property at this type of level, so it's very exciting.

Most of my work is concerned with basic science – it's about knowledge for knowledge's sake and understanding how the world operates. But because the cell wall is crucial to the production of biofuels, our research has a lot of potential for agricultural applications.

That's because the cell wall has huge amounts of complex sugars, which are broken down and fermented to make biofuels. Now, a biofuels researcher might want to figure out a way to make those sugars easier to collect by changing the biochemistry of the cell wall. But changing the cell wall might change the shape of the plant, and therefore its function. So we can advise on ways to change a plant's chemistry while avoiding disastrous effects on the plant itself.

I'm on a five-year Career Development Fellowship, which is designed to give young scientists a chance to lead research groups. It's a research post at the university, so no teaching is required. But for me teaching is really important, which is why I wanted to join a college.

Teaching has great benefits for research. I love interacting with the students and we had several from King's working in the lab over the summer. Teaching also forces you to go back over the basics – students will often ask questions you think are obvious that aren't. They have fewer preconceptions, which forces you to question why you think things are true.

The same is true of King's generally. You get to meet people in different disciplines who ask you stuff and you think, “I haven't thought about that before”. I'm not from a college system so I wasn't sure I'd like it, but King's is really down to earth, warm and welcoming.

I chose King's because although it's one of the grandest looking colleges, its students have a reputation for being politically interested, which, not being from an Oxbridge environment, I felt suited me.

I'm from a small town in Canada and did my undergraduate studies at the University of Guelph near Toronto, my PhD at the University of California at Davis and a post-doc in Berne. Getting to live in all these places is one of the best things about academia. Science is an international endeavour and being exposed to different cultures exposes you to different ways of looking at things.

WHY SOCIAL SCIENCE MATTERS MORE THAN EVER

Kingswoman Jane Elliott was recently appointed Chief Executive of the Economic and Social Research Council. Here, she tells *King's Parade* about the challenges and opportunities she faces in her new role.

"There have never been more challenges needing a social science approach," says Kingswoman Professor Jane Elliott.

"Environmental uncertainty, ageing populations, conflict – all require interdisciplinary collaboration, and social science can play a key part in that," says Jane, who was recently named Chief Executive of the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).

With a budget of just over £200 million, the ESRC funds research, supports postgraduate students and invests in social science infrastructure. The latter includes large data centres and the resources needed to conduct longitudinal studies – projects in which researchers observe the same subjects over a period of time, sometimes decades.

Jane says she has joined the ESRC at an exciting time for social science.

"The digital revolution means there's so much fascinating data available these days," she says. "Health data, social media and electronic devices can all give us insights into what makes us thrive as a society."

However, Jane is also leading the ESRC at a time when it is having to do more with less. In 2010, the UK government announced a "flat cash settlement" for the ESRC. The settlement meant the Council's funding was ringfenced but subject to a reduction in real terms.

"We're having to work as efficiently as possible within constrained resources," says Jane. "But at the same time, we need to be taking risks. Innovative research is an inherently risky business and we want social scientists to come to us with exciting ideas."

Jane says her new role will involve building relationships across "the whole ecosystem of social science research", including business, government, the third sector and other funders. Similarly, she sees the ESRC as an organisation that can broker relationships between researchers and the people who can use their work.

She says: "It's about getting that dialogue early on at the design stage of research, so researchers can understand the key challenges that need to be tackled."

Jane also believes it's important to fund good research synthesis – namely, the way research is summarised, evaluated and made subject to meta-analysis.

"We need to be able to communicate the key messages from research in a clear way," she says.

Jane brings a broad range of experience to her new role. Her past projects have exposed her to a variety of approaches (both



substantive and methodological) and areas of research (for example, gender studies, psychology, economics and pharmacy). She has also worked within several institutions, including the universities of Liverpool, Manchester, Cambridge and Harvard, and the Centre for Longitudinal Studies, of which she was director.

Jane, who matriculated in 1984, says her time at King's was characterised by a similar diversity. She has fond memories of the College as a place that took people outside of the lecture hall and encouraged them to interact with others from all disciplines.

In particular, she recalls the King's Cellar and the King's bar as places that attracted members and non-members of King's alike. She recalls comedian David Baddiel and the dramatist Tim Firth as regulars, along with the sociologist and disability rights campaigner Tom Shakespeare.

"My memories of King's are so vivid, I can't believe I was an undergraduate thirty years ago exactly," she says. "What's so special about King's is the chance to be part of something with a long history but that has embraced modernity and diversity."

BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS

Meet undergraduates Anna Darnell Bradley (Human, Social and Political Science) and Priti Mohandas (Architecture). Both from state school backgrounds, Anna and Priti met in their first week and discovered they shared a passion for opening up Cambridge to a broader range of students – so they decided to put themselves forward as KCSU's Access Officers. Here, they tell *King's Parade* about their remarkable achievements in the role.

"You meet students with fantastic grades who don't see Oxbridge as an option. They'll say things like, 'People speak differently there'".
– Priti

What made you run for Access Officer?

Priti: I'm originally from Manchester but moved to North West London, where I went to a bog-standard London school with a very diverse mix of people. I met Anna on the first day and we realised we both wanted to give something back to our schools.

Anna: I grew up and went to school in Tottenham. Because we'd had a similar journey to Cambridge, Priti and I bonded immediately. We both saw the place from a different perspective – that's what inspired us.

What were your own experiences of applying to Cambridge?

Anna: I applied through what was then the Access Scheme, which is available to students who've gone to a school where most people don't go to Cambridge, whose parents didn't go to university, or who have other extenuating circumstances. I was very ambivalent about applying and it was a last-minute decision. I didn't think I'd enjoy Cambridge – it's been quite a shift academically and culturally – but I've enjoyed it.

Priti: My school teachers were incredibly supportive and pushed me to apply, which I did a week before the deadline. I think I did well at the interview because I went in with the mindset that I wouldn't get in. I was the first student from my school to get into Cambridge, but since then the sheer volume of applications has increased massively, one of which has been successful.

Do your backgrounds have a bearing on your studies?

Anna: Specialising in sociology, I've been able to incorporate lots of different aspects of myself in my work. Last year, I wrote a 5,000-word essay on what caused the London riots. Growing up in Tottenham and having done youth work there, I had a particular perspective.

Priti: Architecture is very much a middle-class degree and I immediately felt different because the other students were already used to the one-to-one Cambridge system. They'd also been exposed to highbrow culture as children, so it was second nature for them, whereas I had to find these things out for myself.

So what does being an Access Officer involve?

Anna: There are three compulsory responsibilities. We're expected to do the CUSU Shadowing Scheme, where Year 12 students from deprived areas get a chance to shadow an undergraduate for two days, attending lectures and social events with them. We're also in charge of the interview helpdesk in December, and we have to arrange and run the Access Bus, which takes a group of King's students to state schools in the North East every year.

Priti: Every college is assigned to a different part of the country for access work and the Access Bus takes in 30 North East schools in four days. You meet students with fantastic grades who don't see Oxbridge as an option. They'll say things like, "People speak differently there".

One of your biggest achievements has been to encourage the College to broaden its approach to access. Can you tell us more about that?

Anna: Traditionally, access initiatives have been done through schools, but the schools that are least connected to Oxbridge are the hardest to reach. Priti and I had both done youth work so we piloted a scheme where we invited students from a youth group in London's Haringey to visit King's for the day.

Usually, King's can't pay the travel expenses for these visits, so you automatically end up targeting the better-off schools, but this time, the College paid both for the students' lunch and their travel. We're hoping to do it again with other youth groups around the country.

Priti: The youth group route also allows you to reach people with a focus, rather than 100s of students at once. For example, you can build links with arts organisations that have their own youth outreach programmes.

You're also pushing to extend the Access scheme so students get more support after arrival. Why is that?

Anna: Yes, our next big thing is trying to look at access in a different way. I was really grateful that the University acknowledged my background when I was applying, but when I arrived, I felt I took 15 steps back because I had no knowledge of the formalities or the traditions, let alone the academic differences.

Priti: I also had a difficult time fitting in at first – I had such feelings of real isolation that it was quite overwhelming. It wasn't too bad at King's, because of the high state school numbers, but on my course the other students' parents all seemed to be CEOs. My mum's a travel agent so I immediately felt different.

So what form might such support take?

Anna: It's a sensitive issue – you don't want to patronise students, just create more chances to talk about these things, with some workshops, maybe.

Priti: We're working on things we want to do in the future. We've nothing concrete yet. It might be that Access students come slightly earlier so they can get to know tutors and students who are already here. Or maybe tweaking the College parenting system so that we make sure new arrivals are paired with people from similar backgrounds. You don't want to be patronising, but it's needed.

Finally, what's next?

Anna: I don't know if we'll run again. Whatever we decide, I still want to be involved in access.

Priti: We're not going to stop doing what we've been doing. We can still help the College do more, even if the changes come in after we've left.

"Traditionally, access initiatives have been done through schools, but the schools that are least connected to Oxbridge are the hardest to reach.

So we're working with youth groups."

– Anna

Eleanor Thompson and Kristy Guneratne are Schools Liaison Officers at King's. This is what Eleanor had to say when we asked her what it was like working with Anna and Priti:



"In all our work with school groups, Kristy and I rely on the energy, commitment, and support of our current students. They are our best representatives

and most powerful advocates. It has been exhilarating working with Anna and Priti this year; we have challenged each other to broaden and deepen King's longstanding commitment to access. Past generations of King's students will recognise their spirit; future generations will benefit from and continue their work."

KING'S LIBRARY APPOINTS CATALOGUER TO CONTINUE THE WORK OF TIM MUNBY

Last year, King's launched the Munby Centenary Fund to create a lasting memorial to Tim Munby, who was Librarian at King's for nearly three decades until his death in 1974. Already, the fund has raised enough money for the College to appoint someone to catalogue the Library's collection of John Maynard Keynes's rare books.

By Peter Jones, King's Librarian

"As a result of the cataloguing project we will be able to make full descriptive records of the Keynes books available on the internet."

The centenary conference held in June 2013 to commemorate the achievements of Tim Munby, Librarian at King's from 1947 to his death in 1974, was enjoyed by more than 100 attendees.

So much enthusiasm was expressed for providing some more lasting memorial to Tim that the meeting led to the creation of a Munby Centenary Fund. By midsummer 2014 it was clear that enough money had been already donated to allow us to appoint a project cataloguer of the Keynes Library, to which Tim had devoted so much of his own efforts as Librarian.

In October we appointed Dr Iman Javadi to the post for one year in the first instance. He has already had experience of cataloguing Keynes's books, as well as working in the Archive Centre as a scholar of T.S. Eliot and as an archives cataloguer.

Iman begins in November 2014 and we expect to report rapid progress on the cataloguing of the remainder of John Maynard Keynes's rare books, which came to the College under the terms of Keynes's will in 1947.

The collection centres on the history of European thought and science, with particular strengths in the philosophical tradition from Bacon and Hobbes through to Kant and Hegel. There is also a choice selection of incunabula, books printed before 1501.

From 1939 Keynes began enthusiastically to collect English literature and drama of the Elizabethan and Stuart age, a welcome distraction in the midst of his efforts to structure Britain's war financing and negotiate the Bretton Woods agreement in 1944.

As a result of the cataloguing project we will be able to make full descriptive records of the Keynes books available on the internet. We expect many exciting finds about the history of individual copies of Keynes's books to emerge.

The Munby Centenary Fund itself is still very much open. Further donations to the Fund, which we hope will go to support the Modern Archives (Tim's creation) as well as Keynes cataloguing, are very welcome.



Frontispieces of Thomas Hobbes' *Leviathan* (top) and *De Cive* (bottom).

If you would like to donate to the Munby Centenary Fund, please go to:
www.kings.cam.ac.uk/library/munby-fund/how-donate.html
 For more information, contact Peter Jones at pmj10@cam.ac.uk

MY KINGS: JAMES CLEMENTS

In 2012, Dr James Clements joined King's as College Librarian. Here, he reveals why he's never regretted giving up the view from his previous office in the British Library.

Like most college libraries, we run on an absolute minimum of staff. There are just the three of us plus the archivists so we all have to get on well together.

I like the variety of the job and never knowing what's going to happen. I could be dealing with a water leak one minute and ordering a book on genetics the next. You'll arrive in the morning expecting to do five things that day, and leave having done five completely different things.

I enjoy teaching the students who work with us. They're from all different backgrounds and subjects, and they find things exciting that I take for granted. Like determining book ownership, dating books or even mundane cataloguing processes.

We're very user oriented here and encourage students to suggest books. Sixty to seventy percent of what we buy comes from student requests. Last week we bought almost 100 books.

The work is very fast paced, because the students' deadlines are so short. Freshers arrive and within days they've got assignments they need books for. Juggling everything around those short-term pressure points is the biggest challenge.

We also have to fit in big, long-term projects around the day-to-day work. We've just appointed someone to spend 11 months cataloguing our rare books online – at the moment the collection is catalogued on cards. The work will only scratch the surface, so we're still fundraising.

We get a lot of enquiries for digital images. In the summer, someone asked us to digitise the oldest item in our library, a whole manuscript of Juvenal from 900AD. It took about three days and was good fun, but we could only do it because they were willing to pay for it.

Before King's I spent 11 years at the British Library, where there were about 2000 employees. In a big institution like that, you're exposed to one area of librarianship. Here, you're exposed to everything.

I'd been wanting to move out of London because the novelty had worn off. But it did mean I had to give up my beautiful view of the loading bay of St Pancras Station.

When I first arrived I remarked on the beauty of King's to my predecessor. She smiled wryly and said: "After ten years you stop noticing". It's not something that's happened to me yet, and I still go out with my camera on a nice day. In the snow, the Fellows' Garden looks like a little Narnia.



I trained as a musicologist, so the musical life of the College is a big draw. The library's rare music collection is of international importance, and I play in a chamber group with other Cambridge librarians. We're about to start rehearsing Brahms' Clarinet Quintet.

My favourite item in the library is a book about witchcraft, which I discovered by chance while teaching some students. It's from 1681 and is concerned with proving witches are real and how they can be identified. It was used in the Salem witch trials. It's not the oldest or rarest book we hold, but it's a fantastic book.



"The College is commissioning six new anthems for the Choir's daily evensong repertoire."

Photography by Nick Rutter

EXTRAORDINARY CONCERT SERIES CELEBRATES 500 YEARS OF MUSIC IN THE CHAPEL

To celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Chapel's completion, King's will host a special series of concerts inspired by each century of its life since 1515. Here, the Choir's Director of Music, Stephen Cleobury, tells us what to expect.

I was delighted to be asked to devise a special series of concerts to mark next year's celebrations of the 500th anniversary of the completion of the building of the Chapel.

These will be woven onto our ongoing series, *Concerts at King's* and *Easter at King's*, the principal strand being a sequence in which each concert will be loosely based on the year '15' in each of the centuries of the College's life. I am pleased that each of my musical colleagues in the Fellowship has agreed to curate a concert.

The concert for 1515 will commemorate the founder, with Vespers for King Henry VI and Eton Choirbook repertoire, to be broadcast by Radio 3 as part of the Wednesday evensong series.

For 1615 Iain Fenlon is devising a sequence of music around Giovanni Gabrieli's 1615 Collection, which the Choir is due to record with His Majesty's Sagbutts and Cornetts during the year.

John Butt, former organ scholar, brings his distinguished Dunedin Ensemble to perform works by Bach written around 1715, and Nicholas Marston has planned a programme around the Beethoven cello sonatas from c.1815.

For 1915, which was also the year of the death of the poet and King's Fellow Rupert Brooke, Andrew Kennedy, former choral scholar, collaborates with his wife Kate in a recital of works inspired by the events of World War I; and for 2015, Richard Causton will present works written by contemporary King's composers.

Other events will include a concert in November, featuring the Berlioz *Te Deum* and Saint-Saëns *Organ Symphony*, with Thomas Trotter, former organ scholar, and the BBC Concert Orchestra, to mark the upcoming restoration of the organ in 2016 by organ builders Harrison and Harrison. We draw upon King's Junior Research Fellow Flora Willson's knowledge of 19th century French music in this connection.

Many of the former organ scholars will be returning to the College to play one of the Saturday recitals (these are held at 6.30pm weekly during Full Term) and, following a bequest by the late Michael Boswell (choral scholar), the College is commissioning six new anthems for the Choir's daily evensong repertoire.

See the back page for dates of the 500th anniversary concerts, in addition to the regular concerts.

A "MUST-LISTEN": NEW RECORDING OF FAURÉ'S *REQUIEM*



"... a serene and scholarly version' of the Requiem that is 'quite outstanding in its beauty, balance and sensitivity."

–BBC Music Magazine

This autumn the Choir released a new recording of Fauré's celebrated Requiem, recorded earlier this year with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and former choral scholar, bass soloist Gerald Finley. It was the first recording of Marc Rigaudière's new reconstruction of the 1889 premiere, even using the organ stops available to the organist at L'église de la Madeleine. For the purposes of comparison, John Rutter's edition of the work is also included on the CD.

The Choir's first recording of the *Requiem*, under David Willcocks in the 1960s, became something of a benchmark, and Stephen Cleobury's new disc promises to do the same. Classic FM described it as "a must-listen", making it their featured album prior to its release and the *BBC Music Magazine* presented it as Recording of the Month in October. The *Pie Jesu* by treble soloist Tom Pickard has been singled out for particular praise.

As ever with the College's own-label productions, the disc is as "in house" as possible, including the translations of text and notes by Fellows of the College Robin Osborne, Bill Burgwinkle and Godella Weiss-Sussex.

Fauré's *Requiem* is available to buy now from the King's Shop (<http://shop.kings.cam.ac.uk>).

FROM BONDI TO BRISBANE WITH KING'S COLLEGE CHOIR



This summer, the Choir visited Australia, winning universally positive reviews for concerts in Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Brisbane, Adelaide and Canberra.

Jamie (12, pictured right), a King's College Chorister, gave *King's Parade* a snapshot of life during the two-week tour.

The best moment of the Choir tour to Australia was when we were standing on the stage at the Sydney Opera House. I had always dreamed of singing there, having seen all the photos, but I never thought I would go somewhere so exciting or famous. Seeing so many people – over 2000 – watching us was daunting at first, but when we sang the Fauré and I saw how moved the audience was I realised this was why I had joined the Choir in the first place.

During the tour, we stayed with different families. The thought of going to stay with people I had never met was a bit scary to start with, but as soon as I was greeted so enthusiastically by the first family in

Sydney I realised this was going to be fantastic. I'll never forget swimming off Bondi Beach!

This was just one of the many amazing opportunities the Choir has given me. Feeding kangaroos, taking selfies with koala bears, saying "g'day mate" to people on the street, being on Australian breakfast TV – and above all singing some of the most beautiful music in such incredible venues – this is an experience I will never forget!

King's College Choir will be performing in the USA between 18-28 March 2015, visiting Chicago, Dallas, New York City and Washington.

NEW BOOK CELEBRATES 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHAPEL

*"I dote on Cambridge,
and could like to
be often there – the
beauty of King's
College Chapel, now it
is restored, penetrated
me with a visionary
longing to be a monk
in it."*

– Horace Walpole,
1777

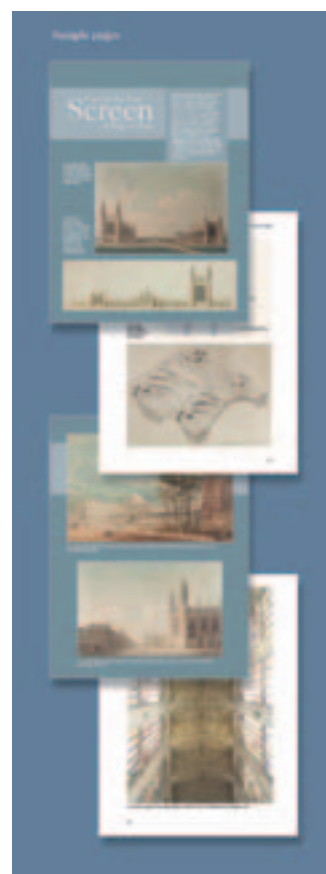
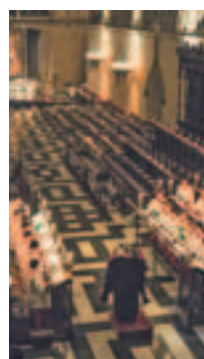
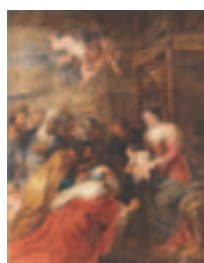
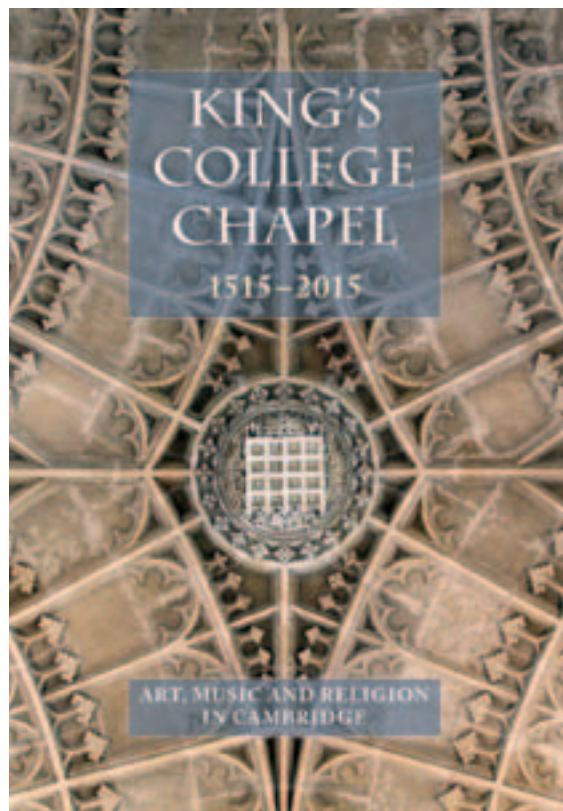
Just in time for Christmas, the new book about the Chapel is available for pre-order from the King's Shop and will be published on 4 December. *King's College Chapel 1515–2015. Art, Music and Religion in Cambridge* celebrates the five-hundredth anniversary of the completion of the stone structure of King's College Chapel in 1515.

It contains seventeen newly researched essays exploring the artistic, musical, religious and cultural history of this extraordinary building from its foundation to the present day.

The essays cover many varied aspects of the Chapel: the architectural engineering of the magnificent vaulting, the current state of the glorious stained glass windows, and the Chapel's altar-pieces, among which the famous painting by Rubens *The Adoration of the Magi* has pride of place. Some of the fascinating personalities who have shaped the Chapel's role in the life of the College are the subject of other essays. Finally, the history of the Chapel's musical culture is traced from the first hundred years of the building's existence up to the 21st century, documenting the effect on service ritual and performance of the constantly changing religious practices and musicological values of the past, but at the same time focusing on the present-day fame of the King's College Choir and the vibrant musical life of the Chapel.

To accompany the text, the volume contains over 240 illustrations, mostly in colour – prints, watercolours, oil paintings, photographs, architectural drawings, plans, maps and even postcards. These reflect the many and varied responses that the Chapel has elicited over time.

The book is edited by King's Fellows Jean Michel Massing and Nicolette Zeeman and published by Harvey Miller. It costs £29.95 (plus P&P) and is available for pre-order from The Shop at King's. The books will be shipped after 4 December.



*King's College Chapel 1515–2015:
Art, Music and Religion in Cambridge*
Edited by Jean Michel Massing and Nicolette Zeeman
416 p., 243 col. ill., 225 x 300 mm,
2014, HB, ISBN 978-1-909400-21-4



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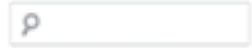
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HOW ACADEMIA AND PUBLISHING ARE DESTROYING SCIENTIFIC INNOVATION: A CONVERSATION WITH SYDNEY BRENNER

For a recent issue of *King's Review*, the magazine recently launched by King's graduate students, Elizabeth Dzung, a practising doctor and King's PhD candidate, sat down with Professor Sydney Brenner, Nobel Laureate and a Professor of Genetic Medicine at Cambridge. Below are some extracts from the interview. You can read the piece in its entirety at kingsreview.co.uk

Sydney Brenner on the college system...

In most places in the world, you live your social life and your ordinary life in the lab. You don't know anybody else. Sometimes you don't even know other people in the same building, these things become so large.

The wonderful thing about the college system is that it's broken up again into a whole different unit. And in these, you can meet and talk to, and be influenced by and influence people, not only from other scientific disciplines, but from other disciplines.

So for me, and I think for many others as well, that was a really important part of intellectual life. That's why I think people in the college have to work to keep that going.

On why a lack of discipline is important in science...

Cambridge is still unique in that you can get a PhD in a field in which you have no undergraduate training.

In America you've got to have credits from a large number of courses before you can do a PhD. That's very good for training a very good average scientific work professional. But that training doesn't allow people the kind of room to expand their own creativity.

For the exceptional students, the ones who can and probably will make a mark, they will still need institutions free from regulation.

The thing is to have no discipline at all. Biology got its main success by the importation of physicists that came into the field not knowing any biology and I think today that's very important.

On the benefits of ignorance...

I strongly believe that the only way to encourage innovation is to give it to the young. The young have a great advantage in that they are ignorant. Because I think ignorance in science is very important. If you're like me and you know too much

you can't try new things. I always work in fields of which I'm totally ignorant.

On the problem with how science is funded...

The most important thing today is for young people to take responsibility, to actually know how to formulate an idea and how to work on it. Not to buy into the so-called apprenticeship. I think you can only foster that by having a sort of deviant studies. That is, you go on and do something really different. Then I think you will be able to foster it.

But today there is no way to do this without money. That's the difficulty. In order to do science you have to have it supported. The supporters now, the bureaucrats of science, do not wish to take any risks. So in order to get it supported, they want to know from the start that it will work. This means you have to have preliminary information, which means that you are bound to follow the straight and narrow.

KING'S REVIEW ON KICKSTARTER

King's Review publishes essays, shorter prose, book reviews, and interviews that combine the sustained, detailed investigation central to academic scholarship with long-form journalism – accessible, but sacrificing nothing in the way of depth and discernment. The editorial board, comprising graduate students at King's, is launching a Kickstarter campaign to help finance the magazine's expenses. It also sells annual subscriptions and accepts donations through the website: www.kingsreview.co.uk

King's Review accepts article pitches and submissions on a rolling basis. If you would like to

submit a piece, contact editors@kingsreview.co.uk

The print edition is published quarterly. The forthcoming winter issue will feature articles and artwork relating to the themes of well-being, privilege, and intergenerational equity. If you are in Cambridge, the magazine is available for sale at The Shop at King's (13 King's Parade, CB2 1SP). In London you can purchase a copy at London Review of Books Bookshop (14 Bury place, WC1A 2JL), Waterstones at UCL (82 Gower Street, WC1E 6EQ), or Housmans (5 Caledonian Road, N1 9DX).



SAVE THE DATE MEMBER AND FRIEND EVENTS

12 December 2014

Easter from King's
Festive Tea and BBC Recording

16 December 2014

Edinburgh Drinks Reception
Usher Hall Edinburgh

16 December 2014

Choir of King's College Christmas Concert
Usher Hall Edinburgh

17 December 2014

Festive Drinks Reception
The Gore Hotel London

17 December 2014

Choir of King's College Christmas Concert
Royal Albert Hall London

14 March 2015

Foundation Lunch
(1965 and earlier)

11 April 2015

20th, 25th & 30th Anniversary Event
(1995, 1990 & 1985)

23 May 2015

10th Anniversary Event (2005)

4 June 2015

King's Golf Day

10-13 June 2015

May Bumps

Coming from overseas and interested in attending an event that is not specific to your year or subject? You are always welcome, but please give us plenty of notice. More details about King's College events at www.kingsmembers.org
Contact the King's Development Office at: events@kings.cam.ac.uk or +44 (0)1223 331 443

More events are expected be added throughout the year. Please visit www.kingsmembers.org

CONCERTS AT KING'S

14 March 2015

Foundation Concert Haydn Trumpet Concerto

John Wallace, Paukenmesse. Many King's Choral Scholars return to sing with the current Choir

21 June 2015

Singing on the River
(Choral Scholars)

EASTER FESTIVAL AT KING'S

1 April 2015

Rossini Stabat Mater

2 April 2015

I Fagolini

3 April 2015

James MacMillan St Luke Passion UK
Premiere Conducted by the Composer

4 April 2015

Bach St John Passion KCC

25 April 2015

Mahler Resurrection Symphony
Part of the 6.30 Organ Recital series

500TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERTS AT KING'S

4 February 2015

1515: Concert King's Place Eton
Choirbook
Curated by Stephen Cleobury

4 March 2015

BBC Broadcast Evensong 1515 Eton
Choirbook

26 April 2015 (tbc)

1915: The Fateful Voyage: songs and poems for Gallipoli anniversary
Including works by Rupert Brooke (KC 1906). Curated by Dr Kate Kennedy

19 June 2015

1615: KCC with His Majesty's Sagbutts and Cornetts
Gabrieli. Curated by Iain Fenlon

10 July 2015

1715: Bach Cantatas 132, 165, 185 and E major Violin Concerto
John Butt and Dunedin Ensemble.
Curated by John Butt

10/11 October 2015 (tbc)

2015: Epiphany through Music to celebrate.

A weekend centred on composers from King's and works that make particular use of the Chapel's unique acoustic and visual beauty. Curated by Richard Causton and John Wallace

11 November 2015

Organ Gala Concert Thomas Trotter Organist and King's alumnus
Berlioz Te Deum and Saints-Saëns Organ Symphony. A concert to celebrate the magnificent King's organ and to launch the restoration campaign

14 November 2015

1815: Beethoven evening curated by Nicholas Marston
Guy Johnston cello, Mark Padmore tenor, Tom Poster piano, Beethoven 102 Cello Sonatas, Piano Sonata Op.90, An die ferne Geliebte, Schubert songs

KING'S OFFERS POSTGRADUATE STUDENTSHIPS IN LAW, AND SPANISH STUDIES

King's is offering two postgraduate studentships for the academic year 2015/16: the TRACE Studentship, and PhD Studentship in 17th and 18th century Spanish Art and Literature.

Candidates for the Trace Scholarship should demonstrate an established interest in criminal law and anti-corruption efforts; preference will be given to overseas candidates with demonstrated financial need.

It is expected the TRACE Scholar will enrol in relevant courses focused on criminal law, international law, the rule of law, governance and economic development, and write his or her LLM thesis on a subject related to criminal law and anti-corruption, such as international aspects.

The Nigel Glendinning PhD Studentship in Spanish Studies: Art and Literature of 17th and 18th century Spain provides funding for a three- to four- year course of study.

In addition, funding will be available in Year 3 to host an international conference at King's on the topic of 17th and 18th century Spanish art and literature. The studentship-holder will be expected to present some of their thesis work at this conference.

The funding for both studentships will cover University composition fees and maintenance costs, and the deadline for applications is 9 January 2015.

www.kings.cam.ac.uk/news/2014/studentships-law-spanish.html



King's Parade is published by King's College, Cambridge CB2 1ST.
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More information can be found online at www.kings.cam.ac.uk/events